THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 18th May 1954.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The questions relating to the portfolio of the Hon. Finance Minister will be taken up last."

Registration of the practitioners of Indigenous Medicine.

* 881 *Q.*—SRI S. RAMALINGAM (on behalf of SRI K. V. Ramaswami) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to include the practitioners of the systems of Indigenous Medicine within the scope of the Madras Medical Registration Act, 1914?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The question of registration of the practitioners of Indigenous Medicine under the Madras Medical Registration Act or under a separate statute is under the consideration of the Government. Since this answer was prepared, Sir, Government have decided that the practitioners of the system of Indigenous Medicine may be registered under a separate statute."

Vaigai River Anicut.

* 883 *Q.*—SRI G. GOVINDAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the proposed Vaigai River Anicut is intended to provide adequate supply of water for irrigation to the villages on the eastern portion of the Ramanathapuram district?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The exact scope of the Vaigai Reservoir Project is yet to be settled. The whole question is being examined."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" While the scheme is completed, is it the intention of the Government to see whether any portion at least of the Ramanathapuram district will be benefited? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It cannot be said now. The whole thing is under the examination of the Government. That is what I have stated."

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SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" ஏற்கனவே வைகை ரிசர்வாயர் திட்டத்தைப் பற்றி பல தடவைகள் இந்தச் சபையில் கேள்விகள் கேட்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. ஒவ்வொரு தடவையும் ஒன்னும் முடிவு செய்யப்படவில்லை, ஆலோசனை செய்துகொண்டிருக்கிறோம் என்று பதில் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். எப்பொழுதுதான் இதை முடிவு செய்யப்போகிறார்கள் என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It cannot be said now, Sir. The whole question is being examined. The experts are at it and they have to submit their report and the Government have to consider the report. No time-limit can be fixed for that."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that the work has commenced and people are working at it? What is the meaning of the Hon. Minister saying that the work is not yet over? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" We have sanctioned the scheme and the execution of the headworks is going on. It will take 4 to 4½ years' time to complete the project. But that has no bearing on the issue of what the scope of the project will be. So, work need not be stopped. That is how we have started the work. The hon. Member may understand that has no bearing on this issue at all."

* 884 *Q.*—Answered at the end of question hour.

Encouragement of cottage industries.

* 885 *Q.*—SRI A. APPU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to encourage cottage industries to solve the problem of unemployment in the State, and if so, what they are?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" There is no proposal for encouraging cottage industries to solve specifically the problem of unemployment as such. But all the cottage industries schemes which are in operation and which may be undertaken hereafter in this State are designed to solve the problem of unemployment also to a certain extent."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether Government have given any subsidy to the cottage industries and also whether Government have given any publicity regarding the subsidy given to the cottage industries? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice, Sir."

SRI O. KORAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether Government have gathered any statistics regarding cottage industries in the State? If so, have the Government any scheme for the development of these cottage industries? "